

Cool, Clear Autumn Weather

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending November 14, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. Clear skies and sunshine dominated most of the State. However, the reduced cloud cover made for low overnight temperatures, pushing the weekly averages to below normal for most districts. Temperatures ranged from four degrees below normal in five Lower Peninsula districts to normal in the western Upper Peninsula. Precipitation amounts ranged from none in the south central and southeast Lower Peninsula to 0.45 inches in the northwest Lower Peninsula. The five other Lower Peninsula districts reported less than 0.20 inches. A farmer in the northwest stated, “We’re harvesting corn and soybeans. Dry weather this week allowed good progress. We still need a couple more weeks of good weather.” An operator in the southeast added, “Other than caring for livestock and combining corn and soybeans, not much else going on.”

Field Crops

Farmers were able to make good harvest progress over the week. Mostly dry, sunny weather helped the **corn** crop dry down, but many growers still reported high moisture levels. With low corn prices and high drying costs, some producers were trying to delay harvest as long as feasible in hopes that the crop would continue to dry down. **Soybean** combining continued. Later plantings were increasingly difficult to harvest as some of the stands didn’t mature properly and moisture levels were high. **Wheat** fields looked good. Growers reported good emergence and growth. The fair weather pushed the crop along nicely. **Sugarbeet** harvest neared completion.

Soil moisture for week ending 11/14/04

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	8	90	2
Subsoil	2	29	68	1

Crop condition for week ending 11/14/04

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Winter Wheat	0	1	20	70	9

Fruit

All fruit harvest was complete across the State. Fall clean up continued.

Vegetables

Vegetable crops wrapped up for the year. Growers were busy with fall tillage and repair and storage of equipment

Crop progress for week ending 11/14/04

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn, harvested	75	63	65	80
Soybeans, harvested	88	75	98	96
Sugarbeets, harvested	99	86	98	98
Winter wheat, emerged	98	90	96	94

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 11/14/04 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2004	2003	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	52	19		1,904	2,171		0.00	0.01	1.81	27.01		
Marquette	52	18		1,864	2,076		0.06	0.27	1.67	22.69		
Stephenson	53	16		2,264	2,408		0.39	0.41	3.42	23.57		
Western UP	53	14	0	1,974	2,156	2,048	0.10	0.15	1.95	21.56	23.64	2.54
Cornell	49	23		1,972	2,280		0.36	0.58	2.72	24.86		
Sault St Marie	51	22		1,693	1,999		0.78	1.17	3.04	23.82		
Eastern UP	51	21	-1	1,742	2,007	1,790	0.43	0.73	2.80	22.29	22.68	2.65
Beulah	55	19		2,315	2,382		0.41	1.28	4.19	26.83		
Lake City	55	19		2,245	2,243		0.41	1.10	4.07	23.45		
Old Mission	56	21		2,259	2,363		0.26	0.82	2.80	24.12		
Pellston	54	13		2,129	2,230		0.56	0.90	2.45	20.94		
Northwest	56	13	-2	2,179	2,265	2,359	0.45	1.04	3.17	23.02	21.98	2.69
Alpena	58	16		2,221	2,232		0.09	0.73	1.50	18.64		
Houghton Lake	58	15		2,356	2,373		0.08	0.69	2.57	21.37		
Rogers City	56	16		2,253	2,328		0.16	0.78	2.30	22.71		
Northeast	58	14	-4	2,254	2,335	2,276	0.16	0.76	2.27	20.72	21.34	2.57
Fremont	56	19		2,624	2,704		0.03	0.74	2.64	21.88		
Hart	58	19		2,471	2,536		0.08	0.74	2.70	24.10		
Muskegon	56	21		2,653	2,815		0.00	0.79	3.09	25.23		
West Central	61	15	-4	2,540	2,622	2,583	0.04	0.76	2.95	25.28	22.20	2.88
Alma	59	19		2,739	2,724		0.03	1.07	2.82	25.29		
Big Rapids	59	17		2,553	2,493		0.08	0.94	3.11	25.76		
Central	59	17	-3	2,670	2,606	2,670	0.04	1.04	2.92	24.68	22.51	2.49
Bad Axe	59	20		2,543	2,414		0.05	1.05	1.75	21.43		
Pigeon	58	20		2,517	2,415		0.02	0.69	1.46	21.71		
Saginaw	60	21		2,766	2,681		0.01	0.98	1.35	19.71		
Standish	59	19		2,504	2,380		0.02	0.88	2.26	21.34		
East Central	60	17	-4	2,542	2,491	2,685	0.02	0.98	2.02	21.70	20.13	2.23
Fennville	59	21		2,725	2,708		0.00	1.22	3.14	18.08		
Grand Rapids	60	21		2,994	2,794		0.01	1.24	3.15	27.32		
Holland	58	23		2,811	2,794		0.00	1.26	3.25	20.77		
South Bend, IN	61	23		3,188	3,020		0.00	1.84	2.58	27.08		
Watervliet	60	22		2,907	2,752		0.00	1.48	2.51	28.14		
Southwest	63	18	-3	2,912	2,820	2,952	0.05	1.47	3.21	26.43	23.66	2.79
Belding	59	18		2,724	2,655		0.01	1.12	2.63	26.96		
Coldwater	58	19		2,832	2,613		0.00	0.93	2.07	26.23		
Lansing	60	22		2,867	2,758		0.00	1.68	2.48	25.57		
South Central	62	18	-4	2,862	2,773	2,894	0.00	1.30	2.33	25.85	22.42	2.32
Detroit	61	26		3,214	3,088		0.00	1.33	2.34	22.72		
Flint	61	18		2,910	2,891		0.00	1.06	2.17	21.69		
Romeo	60	20		2,885	2,704		0.00	1.09	2.03	27.08		
Tipton	61	23		2,894	2,749		0.00	0.80	1.52	21.45		
Toledo, OH	61	21		3,251	3,145		0.00	0.77	1.68	20.90		
Southeast	63	18	-4	2,944	2,903	2,889	0.00	1.16	2.13	23.86	21.48	2.44

¹ Issued by the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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